

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ) Criminal No. 08CR2191-BEN  
)  
Plaintiff, ) FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION OF  
) THE MAGISTRATE JUDGE UPON A  
v. ) PLEA OF GUILTY  
GERARDO MEZA-MARIN, )  
Defendant. )  
-----)

Upon Defendant's request to enter a plea of Guilty pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, this matter was referred to the Magistrate Judge by the District Judge, with the written consents of the Defendant, counsel for the Defendant, and counsel for the United States.

Thereafter, the matter came on for a hearing on Defendant's plea of guilty, in full compliance with Rule 11, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, before the Magistrate Judge, in open court and on the record.

In consideration of that hearing and the allocution made by the Defendant under oath on the record and in the presence of counsel, and the remarks of the Assistant United States Attorney,

///

1       **I make the following FINDINGS - that the Defendant**  
2 **understands:**

- 3       1. the right to persist in a plea of "not guilty";
- 4       2. the right to a speedy and public trial;
- 5       3. the right to be tried by a jury, or the ability to  
6               waive that right and have a judge try the case without  
7               a jury;
- 8       4. the right to the assistance of counsel at trial;
- 9       5. that, at trial, there would be the right to confront  
10              and cross-examine the witnesses against the Defendant;
- 11       6. that, at trial, there is the right to present a  
12              defense, and the right to have witnesses subpoenaed to  
13              testify on the Defendant's behalf;
- 14       7. that, at trial, the Defendant would have the right  
15              against compelled self-incrimination;
- 16       8. the nature of the charge filed in this case;
- 17       9. the maximum possible sentence that could be imposed  
18              (including imprisonment, fine, term of supervised  
19              release, and mandatory special assessment), the effect  
20              of a supervised release term, and that the sentencing  
21              guidelines are only advisory so that the Court may  
22              sentence Defendant up to the statutory maximum;
- 23       10. the terms of the plea agreement;

24 **I further find that:**

- 25       11. that Defendant's plea of guilty is made knowingly and  
26              voluntarily;
- 27       12. the Defendant is competent to enter a plea; and
- 28       13. there is a factual basis for Defendant's plea.

1       **I therefore RECOMMEND that the District Judge accept the**  
2 **Defendant's plea of guilty.**

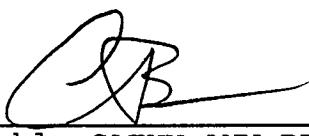
3       The sentencing hearing will be before United States District  
4 **Judge ROGER T. BENITEZ, on OCTOBER 6, 2008, at 9:00 A.M.**

5       Objections to these Findings and Recommendation must be  
6 filed within 14 days of the date of this order.

7

8       Dated: JULY 15, 2008

9

10      

---

Honorable CATHY ANN BENCIVENGO  
United States Magistrate Judge

11 Copies to:

12 Hon. ROGER T. BENITEZ  
U.S. District Judge

13 CARLOS CANTU  
14 United States Attorney

15 MICHELLE BETANCOURT OF FEDERAL DEFENDERS, INC.  
Counsel for Defendant

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28